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# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### FISHERY UPDATE



*Sam Cotten, Commissioner*  
*Scott Kelley, Director*



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Contact:  
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Date: March 29, 2018  
Time: 4:30 p.m.

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#### SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY UPDATE #16

Sitka.... The aerial survey conducted on March 29 covered Sitka Sound from Eastern Channel to Salisbury Sound. Weather during this flight was good with 10 knot winds and overcast skies. No herring were spotted from the air and a small amount of spawn (less than 1/2 mile) was observed in Eastern Bay. Herring predators were spread out, but smaller concentrations were seen north of Low Island, in Hayward Strait, and in St. John Baptist Bay. The vessel survey conducted by the *R/V Kestrel* focused on St. John Baptist Bay. Multiple schools of herring of varying size were observed in this area. Two sets from this area revealed that the fish were of insufficient quality to warrant a fishery opening.

- 8:00 a.m., *F/V Chelsea Dawn*; 75 ton set; 6.4% mature roe, 2.9% immature roe; 42.9% female; 87-gram average weight.
- 9:30 a.m., *F/V Emily Nichole*; 75 ton set; 7.1% mature roe, 2.1% immature roe; 39.4% female; 85-gram average weight

The cumulative spawn mileage for 2018 is 7.6 nautical miles.

The next Fishery Update can be expected on Friday, March 30, 2018.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

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